



Alberta INDUSTRIAL NEWSLETTER

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY AND DEVELOPMENT / Hon. A. R. PATRICK, Minister
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BRANCH / R. MARTLAND, Director

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EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA

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SURVEY LEADS TO OPENING OF BROOM FACTORY

A SURVEY prepared by the Dept of Industry and Development, Government of Alberta, originally publicized in this newsletter over a year ago told of the opportunity awaiting a broom manufacturer in Alberta. The story led to the establishment of the Alberta Broom Factory in Lethbridge in 1963.

The company began production of household, warehouse and curling brooms last December. These are distributed through Alberta wholesalers and large retailers throughout the Province.

Four employees are presently on the \$1,000 monthly payroll, including a foreman, broom-maker and two semi-skilled helpers. The company is operating out of a 2,000 square foot leased frame building at 236 - 12 Street B. North, Lethbridge, and the owner and manager is Morris Kenny.

The main raw materials for brooms include broom corn from the U.S.A., steel wire from the United Kingdom and wooden handles, string, tin ferrules, paint and dye from Canadian suppliers.

The broom corn arrives still attached to a short length of stalk and is sorted according to length, grade and color. The stalk end is chopped off and the bundle of broom corn



is deseeded by the thresher, a machine with a toothed revolving drum. After being dyed the familiar green, the corn is sorted for fineness by passing through a series of successively finer combs. The broom-maker builds the broom from this sorted corn with the coarsest corn inside surrounded by outer layers of finer corn. The broom handle is held by a revolving chuck which is turned by the broom-maker as he quickly builds up the layers of corn, binding them with bright galvanized or tinned wire. The partially completed broom is passed over the toothed drum again to remove any loose pieces and straighten out the corn. Stitching is done by machine with coloured strings in 4 to 6 rows giving the broom its strength and flat appearance. After being trimmed to the correct length, the completed broom is labelled, and packaged for shipment.

Although the broom corn is at present imported from many countries, it has been grown successfully in Lethbridge in the past by the Lethbridge Experimental Farm and might offer a new cash crop for farmers in the southern part of the province where hot summers combined with plentiful irrigation provide ideal conditions for growing broom corn for home consumption.

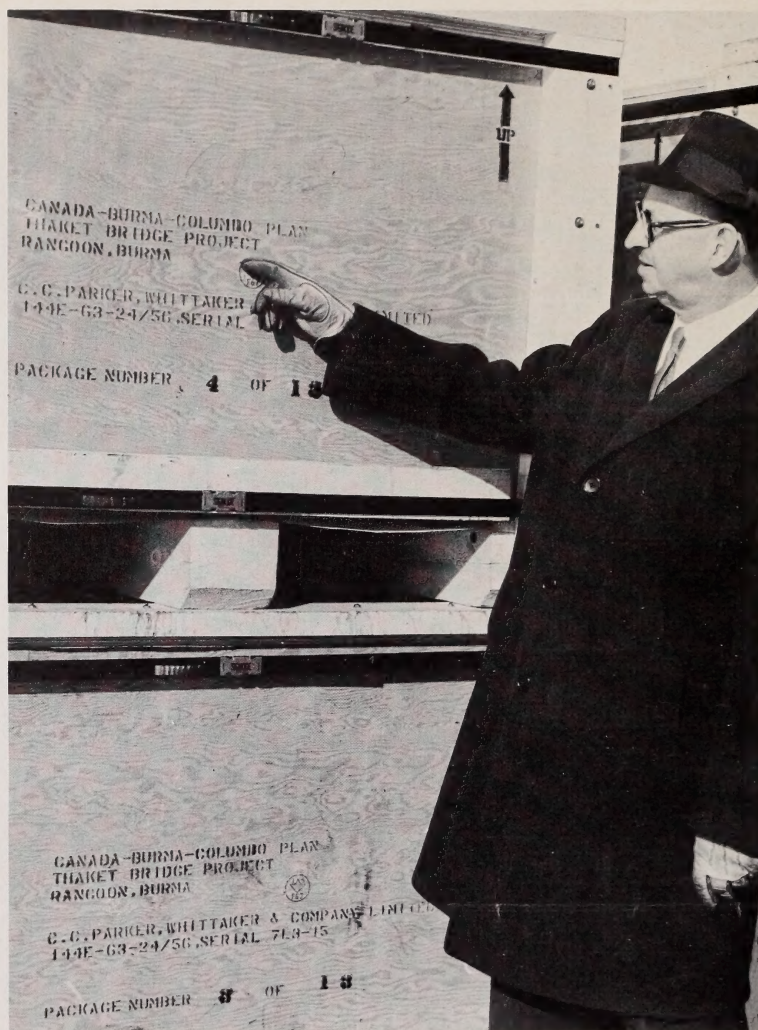
FOUR EDMONTON FIRMS HAVE ROLES IN CONSTRUCTION OF BURMESE BRIDGE

Four Edmonton firms are playing important roles in the construction of the Thaketa Bridge in Rangoon, Burma. The bridge, crossing a river in the harbour area of Rangoon, is a joint project of the Governments of Canada and Burma under the Colombo Plan. Whittaker Carswell Company, an Edmonton engineering firm, was retained by the External Aid Office of Canada to design and construct the bridge, and is being assisted by R. M. Hardy and Associates, Square M Construction Co. Ltd., and Coutts Machinery Co. Ltd.

Foundation conditions for the Burmese bridge are extremely difficult. During construction last summer a caisson weighing 6,500 tons tipped over, and now lies on its side almost totally submerged in the water about 600 feet off shore. To determine the best method for righting the caisson, the engineering company called on the services of two well-known Edmonton companies, R. M. Hardy and Associates for expert soils advice, and Square M Construction Co. Ltd. for expert construction advice.

To right the caisson, a force of over 1,000 tons will be applied through wire rope rigging and twelve hoists of unique design. The Edmonton manufacturing firm of Coutts Machinery Co. Ltd. was selected to fabricate these hoists. They were shipped to Burma recently in 13 crates, each weighing over 2,200 pounds.

Each hoist is of 30,000 lb. capacity, designed to handle 975 feet of $\frac{3}{4}$ " wire rope, and is operated by a 10 h.p. electric motor. The twelve hoists are synchronized to work in unison so that each shares equally in the load to be handled, and all will be operated from a single control panel. They will be set out on the river bank in two rows of six, each row bolted and tied to a concrete bed, and anchored 20 feet farther inshore by a block set on piles 120 feet deep. An A-frame has been built on the side of the caisson, and the twelve wire ropes will be attached to the top of this, pulling the caisson back into an upright position.



Coutts Machinery Co. Ltd. hoists ready for shipment to Burma.

Coutts Machinery Co. Ltd. is an Edmonton company, formed in 1920 by Thomas H. Coutts, who is still active as president in his 80th year. The company has branches in Calgary, Dawson Creek, B.C., and Kamloops, B.C.

Coutts are engaged primarily in the manufacture and distribution of machinery and equipment for the lumber industry. They also manufacture specialized truck-mounted equipment and custom-made ma-

chinery for industry generally. This includes conveying and material handling machinery, as well as products designed for unique applications.

The company is a major contributor to the Edmonton manufacturing payroll, employing approximately one hundred people in a modern factory located at 92 Street and Stadium Road. Products are marketed chiefly throughout Western Canada.

Recold of Canada is Only Western Manufacturer of Refrigeration Coils

RECOLD of Canada, 5818 - 1A Street S.W., Calgary is western Canada's only manufacturer of air conditioning and refrigeration coils. The firm located in Calgary largely because of the initiative of two Canadian companies in bringing Recold's 50 years of manufacturing experience and know-how to Canada. The two companies were Industrial Sheet Metal Products, of Calgary, and its affiliated company in Vancouver, both of which were engaged in the manufacture of hollow metal doors and frames. In a 1963 agreement, Recold of Canada was formed, with Recold Corporation of Los Angeles acquiring a minority interest of 25% in the new company, the controlling interest remaining in the hands of the Canadian shareholders. Recold benefited by having the Calgary and Vancouver manufacturing facilities immediately available, and the Canadian partners benefited from the designs and manufacturing know-how of their United States associate.

Today, Recold products are sold from coast to coast and have been installed in many major building projects, from McGill University in Montreal to a shopping centre in Victoria. The company also has its eye on the possibility of increased trade with Commonwealth countries in the near future.

The firm has its own sales staff in Alberta and British Columbia and sells through agents in all other provinces. Sales are made direct to contractors in most cases, and last year's sales for the Calgary plant totalled about \$1,000,000, with the Vancouver plant grossing a similar amount.

Mr. W. R. Laing, who resides in Calgary, is executive vice-president of the company and general manager of the Calgary plant and of Recold of Canada.

Recold of Canada was established in Calgary in 1963 in its own \$100,000 concrete block building equipped with \$150,000 worth of machinery and equipment. Much of the equipment includes standard metal working tools and machinery, but two unusual items of special in-

terest are the tube expander for assembling heating and refrigeration coils, and the spiral duct mill which produces ventilating duct pipes from 6 inches up to 36 inches in diameter by winding rolls of sheet metal spirally to produce the desired diameter pipe. The tube expander can handle 40 tubes at a time in lengths of up to 10 feet. The $\frac{5}{8}$ " diameter copper tubes are inserted inside the square aluminum radiation fins and placed against the drawing face of the expander. Long steel rods pass through holes in the drawing face and through the length of the tubes. The ends of the rods are expanded to a diameter 25 thousandths of an inch greater than the inside diameter of the copper tubes and the rods are drawn back through the tubes, expanding them tightly against the radiation fins along the way.

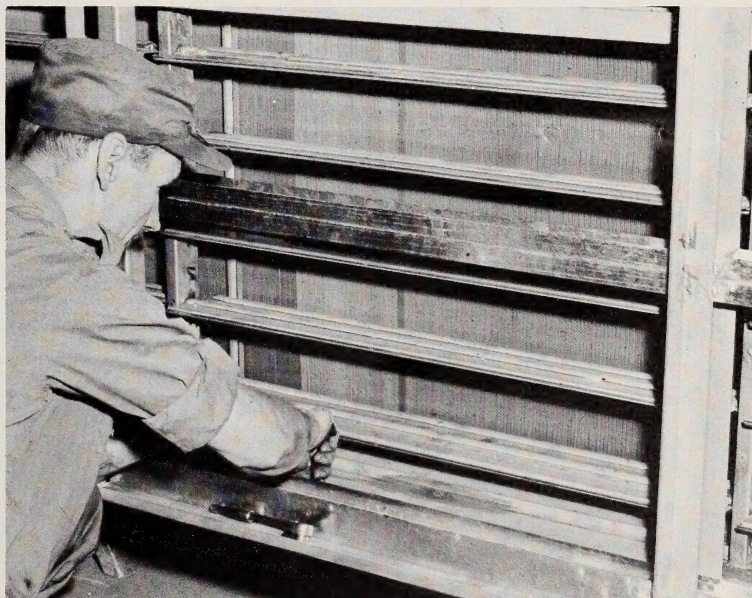
The coils are assembled in batteries or stacks of the required size to form the heart of air conditioning systems of all sizes, from small apartment-sized units to the huge custom built units for large institutions such as hospitals. The larger units are built in several sections in the shop and final assembly takes place on the building site. The cen-

trifugal blower fans for the units are made in the company's Vancouver plant and shipped to Calgary for inclusion in the air conditioners. Similarly, the Calgary plant ships completely fabricated coils to the Vancouver plant for assembly, thus avoiding duplication of production facilities.

Hollow metal doors and frames, steel fire doors, custom steel fabrications and aluminum louvers are other important products of the company. The hollow metal doors and frames are produced in standard architectural sizes for sale to the building trades. The aluminum louvers are fabricated in various shapes and sizes from aluminum shapes specially extruded to Recold's specifications by Aluminum Co. of Canada Ltd. in Vancouver.

The company's raw materials are mainly Canadian sheet steel, Canadian extruded aluminum, aluminum fin stock imported from England, and Canadian made copper tubing. The company's affiliated plant in Los Angeles also uses Canadian made copper tubing.

With a staff of 65, the company's annual payroll is \$300,000, an important contribution to Alberta's expanding industrial economy.





A few of the delegates and visitors attending the recent Industrial Development Board meeting pose on the roof of the Banff School of Fine Arts. Bottom row, left to right are: W. R. Mills, Edson; A. Dyberg, Wetaskiwin; R. Martland, Director of the Provincial Industrial Development and Immigration Branch; J. E. Oberholtzer, Deputy Minister of Industry and Development; G. W. James, Ponoka; J. R. Fleming, Chairman of the Provincial Marketing Board. Middle row, L. D. Robinson, Industrial Development Branch, Los Angeles; E. H. Weeres, Stettler; J. Gregory, Research Council of Alberta; R. Knaut, Camrose; Peter Power, Red Deer; Elmer Ferguson, Lethbridge; K. S. Ford, Calgary. Back row, M. N. Kowton, Edmonton Area Industrial Development Association; John Ferguson, Industrial Development Branch, Calgary; W. G. Brese, Secretary; H. E. Prudhomme, County of Red Deer No. 23; R. Y. McDonald, Athabasca; H. Stackhouse, Brooks; and D. I. Istvanffy, Director of the Alberta Bureau of Statistics.

International Theme at I.D. Board Meeting

CANADA-U.S. industrial relations provided an international theme for the semi-annual meeting of the Alberta Industrial Development Board held June 18 and 19 at the Banff School of Fine Arts. The meeting was attended by 30 board members, representative of cities and major urban centres in Alberta, along with officials of the Provincial Government's Industrial Development Branch.

Highlighting the conference were addresses by Roger A. Sorenson, Consul, U.S. Consulate, Calgary, who spoke on "Areas of Mutual Interest and Co-operation in Industrial Development", and L. D. Robinson, Administrator of the Los Angeles office of the Alberta Department of Industry and Development. Mr. Robinson gave his impressions of the potential of California from the point of view of making export sales and licensing arrangements. He also commented

on the operation of the Los Angeles office, which was opened two years ago.

In his address Mr. Sorenson outlined the services available through his office. These include a business library, tariff lists, assisting Canadian businessmen with patent approvals in the U.S., economic reports and free advertising in a trade magazine for businessmen seeking product outlets or supply sources in either country. The office serves Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Sorenson, referring to the co-operation and neighbourliness of relations between the U.S. and Canada, stated that both capital and labour move with relatively few restrictions between the two countries.

Mr. Robinson reviewed the pace of growth and development in the Western United States with particular reference to California and the Los Angeles area. He told the meeting there are many opportunities for Canadian companies to sell into the California market and a host of services to assist them.

The Industrial Development Branch Office in Los Angeles, he said, supplements, rather than overlaps the function of the Trade Commission Service. Mr. Robinson

invited the board members to make fuller use of the office, visit the California area and become personally acquainted with the potential.

Other speakers adding to the international theme were Mr. B. F. Klein of the Technical Advertising Corporation, Woodland Hills, California, who spoke on "Doing Business in California"; Mr. R. J. Nelson, Industrial Representative from Lloydminster, who spoke on the "Pre-Fab Home Trade Mission to Europe"; and Mr. G. C. Hamilton, Edmonton Planning and Development Commissioner, whose topic was "Highlights of the Edmonton Industrial Development Trip to Europe".

The meeting was also addressed by Dr. G. F. Round of the Petroleum Division, Research Council of Alberta; Mr. James Telford of the Alberta Freight Bureau; Mr. J. E. Oberholtzer, Deputy Minister of Industry and Development and member of the Northern Development Council; Mr. R. Dorrett of the Federal Department of Industry; and W. Mackenzie Hall of the Federal Department of Trade and Commerce. Mr. R. Martland, Director of the Provincial Industrial Development and Immigration Branch, was chairman.

Preference Rule Aids Canadians

CANADIAN exporters to the United Kingdom wishing to claim Commonwealth Preference may claim only on direct consignments from Canada to the United Kingdom.

Goods which have merely been finished in Canada cannot be claimed as only goods which have acquired their essential character in Canada and/or the Commonwealth are considered. As well, a proportion of the manufacturing cost, prescribed according to the class of goods, must be attributed to Canadian and/or Commonwealth labour and/or material.

British law provides for heavy penalties in cases where Commonwealth Preference is claimed for shipments which are not entitled to preferential tariff treatment. When difficulties arise, the refusal of benefits can result in delay in deliveries

RED DEER HOLDS FIRST TRADE FAIR

APPROXIMATELY 5,000 persons visited the first annual Red Deer Trade Fair held May 22 and 23. Sponsored by the Red Deer Chamber of Commerce, the fair had a twofold purpose: to familiarize Central Albertans with Red Deer industry and commerce; and to encourage local buying.

In keeping with this purpose, only exhibitors in Red Deer and district were invited to participate. The 42

and financial hardships for both exporter and importer.

Regulations covering the requirements for Commonwealth Preference are set out in British Customs and Excise Notice No. 27A. Detailed information may be obtained from the Canadian Department of Trade and Commerce, 269 Main Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

inside display spaces and five outside spaces were reserved two weeks prior to the fair.

Displays included automobiles, boats and motors, wrought iron, roofing, metal forgings, sewing machines, clothing, camping equipment, food and beverages, flooring, electrical equipment, concrete, plumbing supplies, encyclopedias, farm equipment, business machines and trailers. In addition, the Alberta Government "Buy Alberta" and "Emergency Measures Organization" trailers were on display.

The show was open from 2:00 to 11:00 p.m. each of the two days. Official opening took place at 6:45 p.m., May 22 under the chairmanship of Chamber of Commerce President Lou Janko.

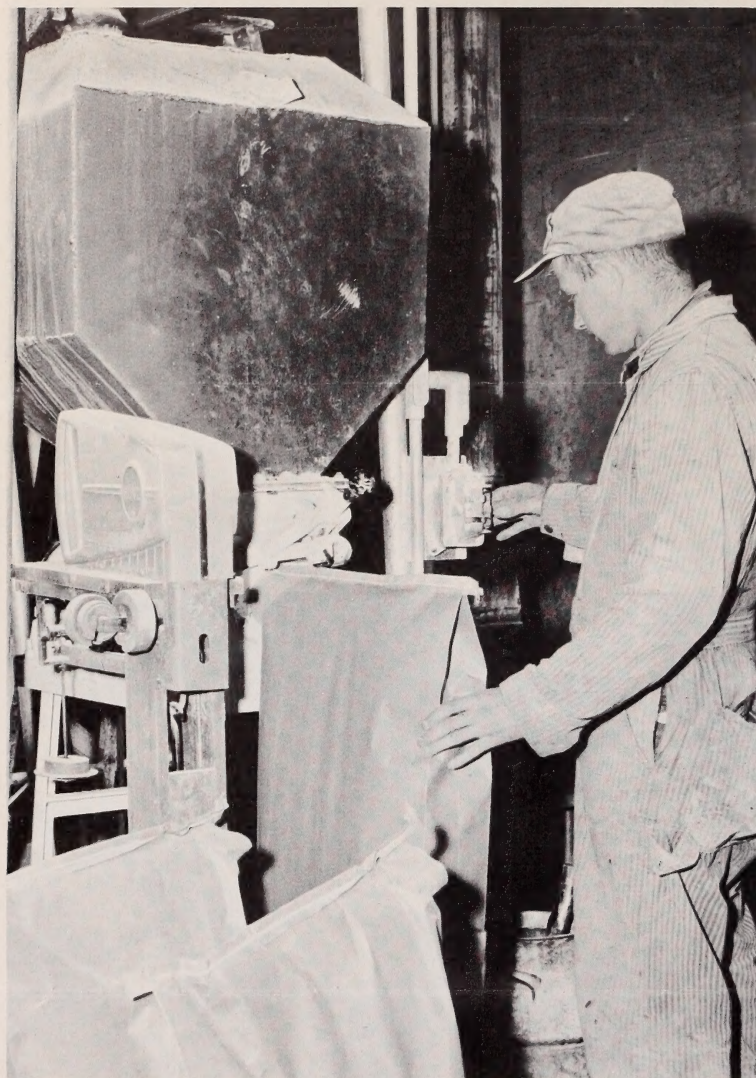
Comments from exhibitors and the public were encouraging and the Chamber plans to make the endeavour an annual affair.



Displays at Red Deer's First Annual Trade Fair.

—RED DEER ADVOCATE PHOTO

Vauxhall is Home of New Starch Plant



Potato starch is packaged in 100 pound bags at the Vauxhall Starch Co. Ltd. plant in Vauxhall.

CANADA'S only potato starch factory west of New Brunswick commenced operations in Vauxhall in September of 1963. Managed by Wilbur B. Hansen, who is also a partner and major shareholder in the company, Vauxhall Starch Co. Ltd. is currently producing 650 tons of raw potato starch in its six-month fall-to-spring operating season on a three shifts per day basis.

The factory's \$25,000 worth of equipment consisting of two hammer mills, two refining shakers,

filters, two centrifugal purifiers and a six foot diameter propane fired revolving kiln drier is housed in the company-owned 4,400 square foot frame building which has a 1,500 square foot storage shed attached. The whole building is valued at \$30,000, and with from three to four employees, including the two partners, the annual payroll is around \$25,000.

Most of the company's production so far has been industrial grade starch, sold to International Min-

erals and Chemical Corporation at Esterhazy, Saskatchewan for use as a flotation agent. However, the company has now started producing food grade starch and, with a number of food processors already interested in the product, expects to sell a larger proportion of its production in this market. Potato starch has complete lack of flavour which enables it to be successfully blended with a wide range of products.

Packaged in 100 pound sacks supplied by St. Regis Paper Co. Ltd., the company's starch sales are handled by a broker distributor, Stein-Hall Ltd. of Toronto. The potato starch, in its edible and industrial varieties, has over 400 applications, ranging from its use by meat packers, yeast and soup manufacturers to a mineral flotation agent and as a paper sizing.

In the manufacturing process, potatoes are washed before being ground in a hammer mill to a pulp which is passed down a sloping shaker screen to filter out the starch milk. The partly drained pulp passes through a second hammer mill for further crushing and down a second shaker for removal of the remainder of the starch milk. The milk is refined in centrifugal concentrators somewhat like a cream separator, to remove the protein water, leaving starch liquid.

The starch liquid is stored in a 2,000 gallon storage vat which feeds into a filter where the moisture content is reduced to 42% prior to passage through the drying kiln. The revolving kiln is lined with metal fins to increase the surface area and during its 15 minute passage down the 30-foot kiln, the starch is heated to 180 degrees, reducing the moisture content to between 15% and 17%. This is dry enough for bagging, which is done at the rate of eight 100 pound bags per hour.

The dried pulp residue is sold as cattle feed.

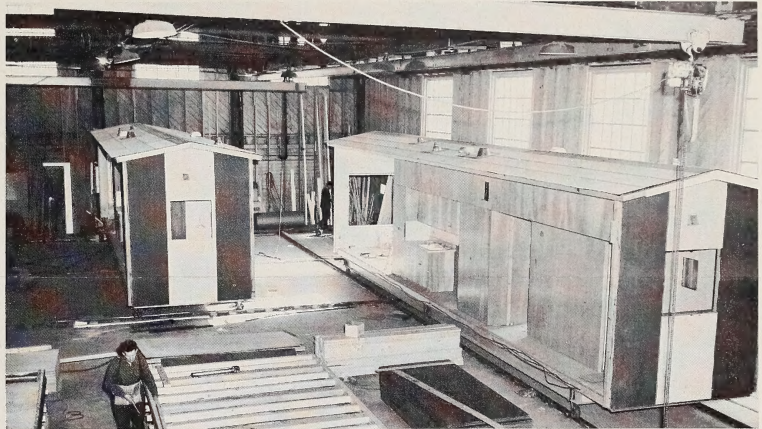
The company feels it has made a wise decision in locating itself in what is already Alberta's prime vegetable growing area, an area which is expected to become western Canada's most important source of vegetables and row crops under the stimulus of increased irrigation.

Alta. Made Relocatable Homes Sold To U.S. Air Force From Vulcan Plant

RELOCATABLE homes, with plumbing, wiring and heating equipment completely installed, are being manufactured at Vulcan, Alberta for shipment to bases in Montana and North Dakota under a \$2 million contract with the United States Air Force. When the contract is completed this August, Klassen Construction Ltd. of Box 390, Vulcan, will have built 218 of these unique houses.

The unique features of these houses is that the walls, floor and roof can be folded into the eight foot wide centre section to form a house trailer sized bundle which can easily be hauled. Upon arrival at the construction site, the house is lowered upon previously prepared foundations, opened up, and after a few final finishing operations to cover the steel hinges, which run the length of the house in floor and ceiling, and the hooking up of the utilities, the house is ready for occupancy.

The 45 by 26 foot house is completely finished, inside and out. The interior finish is of natural wood and of a washable vinyl plastic wall-covering in attractive patterns. The exterior is painted waterproof plywood in a vertical board and batten design. All hardware is supplied, down to the lighting fixtures and curtain rods.



Relocatable homes in various stages of development.

Construction takes place on an assembly line basis in a converted aircraft hangar, one of the six now owned by the company located on what used to be R.C.A.F. Station Vulcan. The 35,000 square feet of floor space in the hangar provide ample room for the network of steel rails along which move the mobile platforms on which the houses are built.

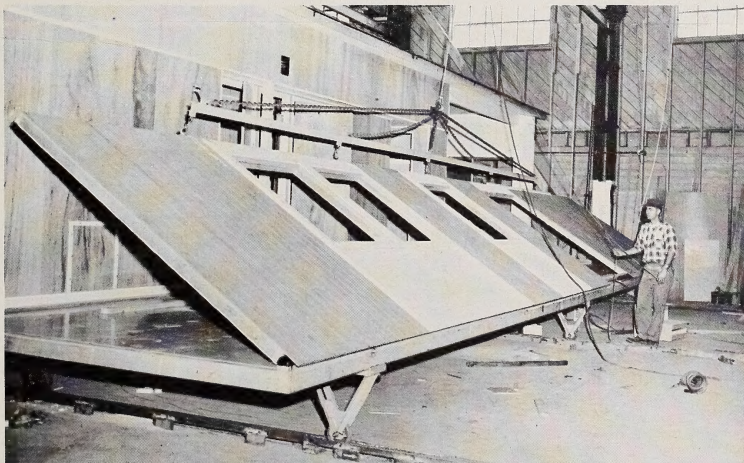
The central core of the house is built first, and plumbing, wiring and heating equipment are all installed as the section progresses down the assembly line. The outer

sections are meanwhile being assembled on another production line. The component parts are joined on the third and final line. After being completely checked over and inspected for quality, the house is folded up and rolled out of the hangar doors for shipment on a low-loading trailer.

Extensive use is made of modern labour saving devices to speed production.

About 80 percent of the materials now going into the construction of these homes is of Canadian origin and the remaining 20 percent is of United States origin, according to company manager Mr. H. K. Wallace.

The \$14,000 earned by the company's 118 employees every two weeks has given a much needed boost to the area's economy, which slowed down considerably when the R.C.A.F. station closed down. The company's present production schedule of one house per day will shortly be boosted to two houses per day. Negotiations are currently under way with housing developers in the United States to supply them with houses for projected new residential developments. When the present contract has been filled, the company will also move into the Alberta housing market with a sales drive for its unique relocatable home.



Houses can be folded into eight foot wide centre section for easy transportation.

TOWN OF BONNYVILLE

LOCATION

Section 18-61-5-W4 in Census Division No. 12. This location is 150 miles northeast of Edmonton on Highway 28, and on the Edmonton-Grand Centre-Heinsburg branch line of the Canadian National Railway.

ALTITUDE

1,814 feet. Latitude—54/15. Longitude 110/45.

TEMPERATURE

Average summer, 53 degrees F.; average winter, 19 degrees F.; average annual, 32 degrees F.

RAINFALL

Average annual rainfall, 11.95 inches; average annual snowfall, 40.8 inches; average annual precipitation, 16.03 inches.

GEOLOGY

Bedrock underlying the till mantle at Bonnyville is marine shale of the La Biche formation which is Cretaceous in age. This shale was deposited during the invasion of the large seas of Upper-Lower Cretaceous time. It bears marine fossils.

SOIL

Bonnyville is in a Transition soil zone.

LIVING CONDITIONS

Bonnyville is the centre of a fertile, picturesque and prosperous farming district. It can be described as a parkland, with hills and valleys that are well wooded and provide good hunting for upland game birds. There is good duck hunting on the adjacent Moose and Muriel lakes. These lakes are well stocked with fish. It is the health, education, religious and marketing centre for a large district. Utilities consist of a central sewage and water system, natural gas and three phase 60 cycle power. Modern stores line the wide paved main avenue, and wooded areas nestle close to the town to the south and east. There are about 533 homes, 90 per cent owner-occupied, but a shortage of housing still prevails. The average rent for a five-room frame bungalow is \$65 and up per month.

ADMINISTRATION

The town is governed by a mayor elected for a two year term, and six councillors, two elected each year for a three year term.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

There are two town constables, two Justices of the Peace and a resident Police Magistrate. A two-man Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment also serves the area. The town has a zoning by-law and plans for new buildings or alterations must be approved by Council. Gas, electrical and sanitary installations must comply with provincial regulations.

FIRE PROTECTION

The volunteer fire brigade consists of a chief, deputy chief and 23 firemen. It is supplied with modern equipment.

TAX STRUCTURE

The mill rate is 62 mills, based on 25.5 municipal; 33.5 school; and 3.0 hospital. Total assessment is \$2,822,615, made up of \$415,210 land; \$2,106,195 improvements; and \$301,210 business.

UTILITIES

Three phase 60 cycle power is supplied by Canadian Utilities Limited under franchise. Natural gas is supplied under franchise by the Bonnyville Gas Company from three local wells with a combined capacity of 20.5 million cubic feet per day. Water is obtained from Moose Lake 2½ miles west and is electrically pumped into the distribution system and a 40,000 gallon elevated water tower.



Bonnyville

EDUCATION

Bonnyville Public School District No. 2665 administers a Roman Catholic school and teaches Grades One to Twelve. Optional subjects include home economics, shop, typing, art, music and dramatics. Rural residents are transported to town schools by bus. The modern Notre Dame High School was opened in 1962 and Notre Dame Convent offers music to pupils from Grades One to Ten.

RECREATION

Facilities for cultural activities and sports include a library, theatre, two halls, three gymnasiums, curling rink and arena (both with artificial ice), two open air rinks, nine hole golf course, licensed airstrip, playground for children, two fastball diamonds and a baseball diamond.

LOCAL RESOURCES

The surrounding country has developed as a mixed farming district. Average production of grains per acre over a 16 year period is: wheat 18, oats 30, barley 22, and rye 14 bushels. Alfalfa production for feed and seed is a growing local industry. Other industries consist of lumbering, livestock raising, fur farming, trapping and commercial fishing. Natural gas is available and 20-21 A.P.I. gravity oil has been found near the town. Trading area population is 19,811, town population 2,124 (1963 census).

BUILDING SITES

Industrial sites adjacent to trackage and residential sites are available and can be served with all utilities.

For further information about Bonnyville write

**Mr. T. L. Theroux,
Secretary-Treasurer,
Town of Bonnyville,
P.O. Box 308,
Bonnyville, Alberta.**

or

**R. MARTLAND,
Director of Industrial Development,
Department of Industry and Development,
335 Highways Building,
Edmonton, Alberta.**